



AEA Facts

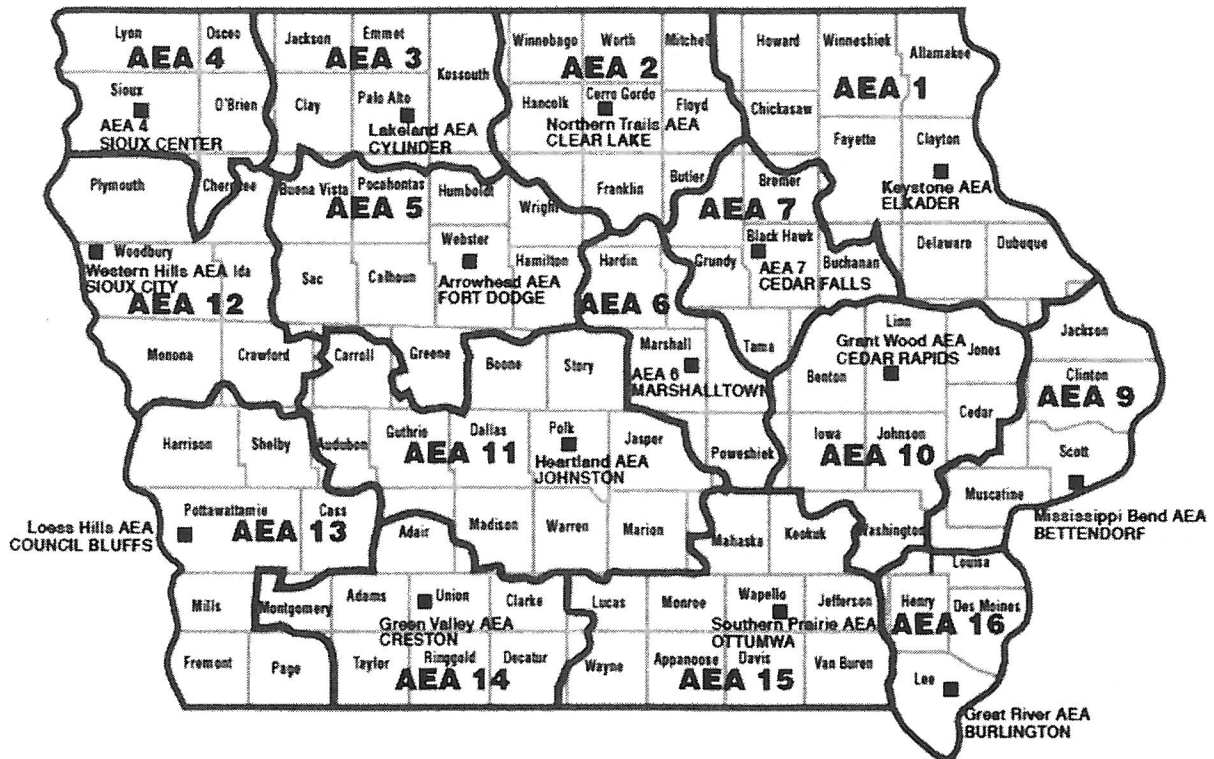
Presented to the Iowa Legislature

February, 2011

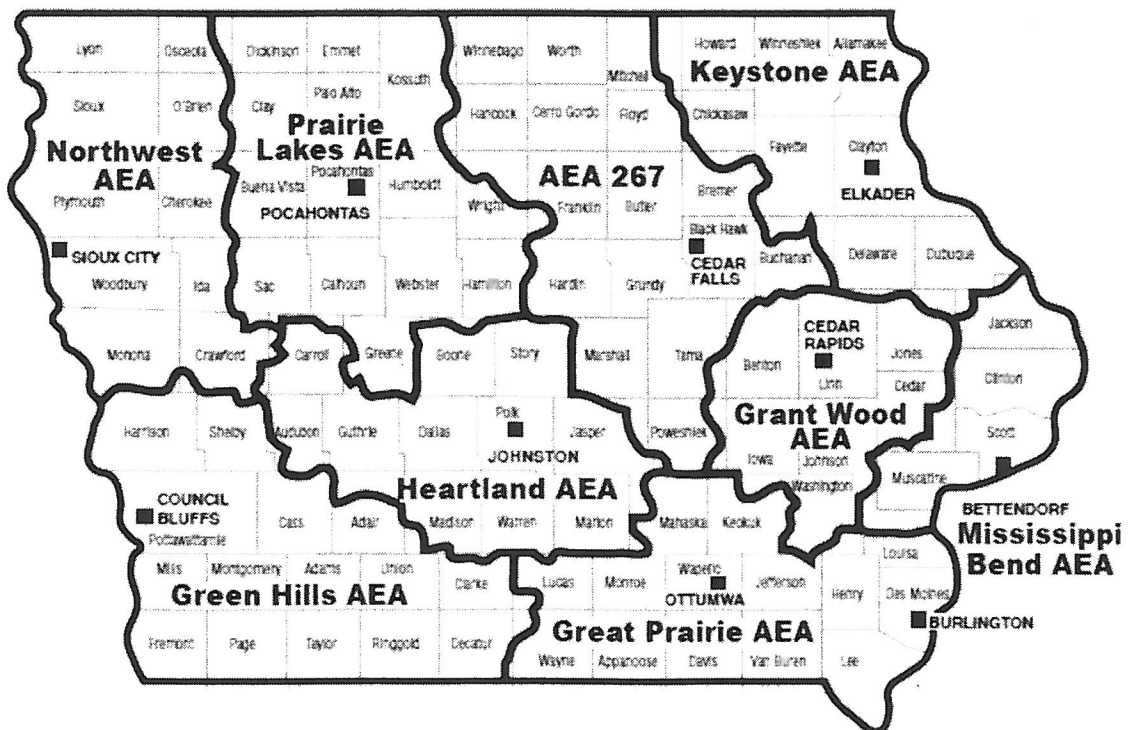
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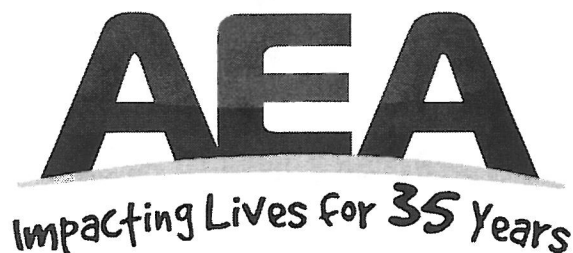
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Fifteen Iowa Area Education Agencies - 1975



Nine Iowa Area Education Agencies - 2011





Iowa Area Education Agencies

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

Iowa's Area Education Agencies: Partners in Education

With the historic drop in state revenue and last fall's 10 percent across the board budget cut, state leaders at all levels are making difficult decisions. When you, as legislators, consider future decisions about Iowa's Area Education Agencies (AEAs), we ask you to consider these facts:

- The AEAs were established in 1975 by the Iowa legislature to provide equitable, efficient and economical educational opportunities for all Iowa children.
- The AEAs provide services that would be difficult to provide to districts if the AEAs didn't exist. For example, smaller districts can't afford to hire small fractions of a speech-language pathologist's time, whereas the AEA can pool these services and provide them at reasonable costs.
- Regionalism is a solution in tough times. AEAs lead the way in intergovernmental collaboration through voluntary mergers. In recent years, AEAs have merged and have gone from 15 to nine organizations.
- The AEAs have averaged only .8% growth per year over the past 10 years.
- AEA staff members identified as administrators make up only 3.3% of the entire statewide AEA staff.
- The AEA budget is already reduced by \$10 million per year. The only state funding received is for special education.
- The AEAs are part of Iowa's school infrastructure and have been for over 35 years. If the AEAs are reorganized, schools and students with disabilities will be most affected.
- Over 80% of the AEAs' budget is devoted to special education delivery systems. Approximately 5% or less of the AEAs budget is discretionary.
- Forty-five states now have educational service agencies (ESAs). The other five are trying to create similar service agency systems in their states. The Iowa AEA system is one of the most admired in the country.
- Iowa is the only state that has an accreditation system for its service agencies and where the regional service agency has a collaborative working relationship with their Department of Education.
- Both Senators Harkin and Grassley have been supportive of the AEA system, which was created in response to national laws mandating special education.
- AEAs funding is a mixture of state and local property taxes. The state does not have legal tax authority to oversee and utilize local property taxes for its own purposes.

Collaboration Creates Efficiencies

Below are areas in which the AEAs continue to collaborate to create efficiencies:

- Equitable, localized services to school districts through collaborative relationships with LEA and AEA leadership and staff
- Internet aggregation
- Iowa AEA Online
- Iowa Core Curriculum
- Iowa Collaborative Assessment Modules
- Iowa Educators Consortium
- Instructional Decision Making
- Lending library materials/system
- Monthly joint meetings (special education, media and educational services)
- Professional development
- Printing services
- Special education procedures manual
- Statewide Child Find and special education procedures
- Statewide AEA positions (challenging behavior, learning supports and positive behavior supports)
- Statewide AEA/DE web applications (Information Management System, Individualized Education Plan, Individualized Family Service Plan, Medicaid and Child Find)
- Technology consultation
- Use of virtual meeting tools such as Polycoms and Adobe Connect

All Iowa AEAs are required to adhere to state and federal laws that prohibit discrimination in programs, activities and employment practices. For specific information, contact y

Iowa AEA Online

Educational Resources Funded and Provided by Iowa's Area Education Agencies

Iowa AEA Online is a statewide collaborative project that provides no-cost access to high-quality, web-based resources for all Iowa PreK-12 students and teachers. These electronic, across-the-curriculum resources allow all schools, regardless of financial or geographic constraints, to offer a "library without walls" that is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, from any Internet-accessible computer. Iowa AEA Online is funded and supported by Iowa's Area Education Agencies (AEAs) www.iowaaea.org. To learn more about these resources and how to access them, contact your teacher librarian, AEA Media and Technology representative or go to the Iowa AEA Online website at www.iowaaeaonline.org and click on Educators>Tutorials.

AccuWeather

The AccuWeather Premium Weather Service can enhance science curriculum for research, projects, presentations, or help make math relevant with historical weather data student can manipulate on a spreadsheet, average, compare, or use for prediction.

AP Images

AP Images is the online database of primary source content from the Associated Press (AP). Students and teachers can access over 6 million images, audio clips, graphics and text articles, from the 1800's up to a minute ago.

Atomic Learning

Library Atomic Learning provides online technology training and classroom tech integration projects for more than 205 applications students and educators use every day.

Discovery Education streaming

Discovering Education streaming is a web-based digital video delivery system from Discovery Education, that provides over 9,000 videos segmented into over 71,000 content-specific video clips.

EBSCO

EBSCO is the largest school subscription agency of full-text periodicals, newspapers and reference tools for elementary, middle and high school students.

iCLIPART For Schools

iClipart For Schools is a collection of more than 7.8 million royalty free photos, clipart, fonts, animations and sounds that teachers and students can use in multimedia presentations, Inspiration diagrams, school websites, worksheets, newsletters, posters, signs and more.

Learn 360

Learn360 is an interactive, media-on-demand digital delivery system for streaming and downloading full videos, video clips, images, audio files, podcasts and teacher resources.

SIRS Issues Researcher

SIRS Issues Researcher provides relevant information to encourage dialogue and critical thinking about the major issues of today's society.

World Book Online

World Book Web is a suite of online research tools that provides encyclopedia articles, primary source collections, educator tools, student activities, pictures, audio video complemented by current periodicals and related websites.

Iowa AEA Online 2010-11

Per Building Cost vs. Statewide Contract

Product	Building Costs*
Atomic Learning	\$1,365,151
Clipart.com	\$138,000
EBSCO	\$3,351,399
Multimedia Archives	\$286,991
SIRS**	\$433,850
Learn 360	\$2,090,640
Discovery Education Streaming	\$4,379,110
World Book Online	\$1,855,340
Total Retail Cost	\$13,900,482

*Price from 07-08 except for Learn360 2010-11

**Does not include elementary schools.

Retail cost per student by building \$27.69

Iowa AEA Online cost per student	\$3.06
Saving per student	\$24.63

Data

Public School Enrollment	468,673
Private School Enrollment	33,414
Total:	502,087

Iowa AEA Online Cost 2010-11 \$1,535,460

Savings from statewide contract \$12,365,022

To access and review Iowa AEA Online, the following temporary username and password has been setup for Iowa Legislators.

Website: www.iowaaeaonline.org

Username: nwaea Password: nwiaea

Leveraging technology to provide personalized learning and to enable continuous life long learning for students and adults.

Statewide 21st Century Technology Initiatives to Improve Teaching and Learning

Initiatives sponsored by the Iowa Area Education Agencies.

EdInsight

provides quality, timely data about schools, programs and services to improve learning.

- Project EASIER
- Special Education (IMS)
- ITBS and ITED
- and more!

Statewide Online Professional Development System

Student Online Learning

Virtual Classrooms. Learning 24/7

Google Apps

helps you stay organized and connected online.

- Gmail
- Google Calendar
- Google Docs
- Google Sites
- Google Video
- and more!

Iowa AEA Online

Online Resources and Databases

- Photos
- Clipart
- Videos
- Tutorials
- News articles
- Media
- Research
- Weather
- and more!

EduVision

EduVision is an online television station featuring Iowa's educators and students.

- Teaching methods
- Interviews
- Inside the classroom
- and more!



DATA



APPLICATION

Statewide Online Professional Development System



ADULT LEARNING

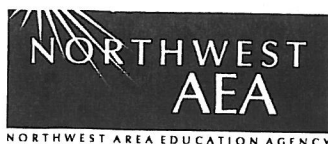
Iowa AEA Online

Educational Resources Funded and Provided by Iowa's Area Education Agencies

RESOURCES

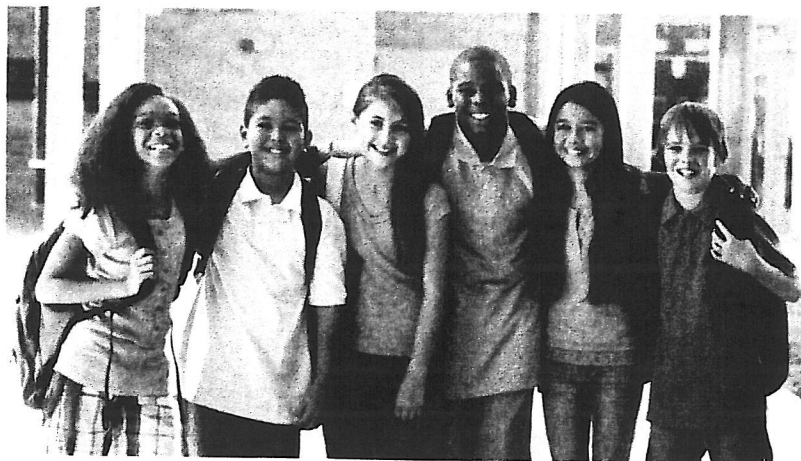
Student Online Learning

EduVISION



Northwest AEA Programs & Services

Visit www.nwaea.k12.ia.us for more info.



Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Offering support and expertise on best practices in both content and skill areas for children birth to age 5 and K-12 students.

Academic Instruction

Authentic Intellectual Work
Characteristics of Effective Instruction
Differentiated Instruction
Graphing Calculators
Instructional Coach Training
Instructional Practices Inventory
KU Strategies
Professional Learning Communities
Universal Design for Learning

Reading and Language Arts

Fusion Training
Reading/Language Arts Education
Reading Recovery
Second Chance Reading

Science

Every Learner Inquires
FOSS Kits
Science Education

Additional Content Areas

Gifted Education
Guidance
Physical Education
Social Studies

Assessment

HEART Data
ICAM (Assessment Tool)
Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS)
Iowa Tests of Educational Development (ITED)
Key Survey
Program Evaluation
Testing for Home School Students

Instructional Decision-Making

Iowa Core Curriculum - Training and Technical Support

Math

Every Student Counts

Positive Behavior Intervention and

Supports

Technology

Technology Integration
Universal Design for Learning

School-to-Work Programs

Career and Technical Education

Early Childhood Programs

Child Find
Early ACCESS
Early Childhood Special Education
Iowa's Quality Preschool Program
Standards
Support and Technical Assistance to schools in the Iowa Preschool Grant Program, including professional development, curriculum and assessment and Every Child Reads

Student Opportunities

Harvest (Student Publication)
History Day
Math Bees
Math Counts

Schools and Districts in Need of Assistance

Special Education

Providing specialized services for children and students birth to age 21 with diverse learning needs, including students with disabilities.

Programs and Services

Alternate Assessment
Assistive Technology
Autism Parent Support Group Meetings
Autism Resource Team
Braille Instruction
Brain Injury Resource Team
Early Childhood Special Education
Hearing Services
IEP Support
Information Management System
Full and Individual Initial Evaluation
Occupational & Physical Therapy
Positive Behavioral Supports Training
School Psychology/Strategists

School Social Work/Strategists

Special Education Consultant Services/
Strategists
Speech-Language Services
Transition Support Services
Vision Education

Multicultural, Gender-Fair

Providing services that assist schools and school districts to ensure supportive learning environments for all students.

Bullying, Harassment, & Sexual
Harassment Prevention and
Intervention

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Iowa English Language Development Assessment

Testing and Assessment
Iowa Language & Culture Conference
Learning Supports

School-Community Planning

Providing support for school improvement processes and communication with families and communities.

School Improvement Processes and Plans

Assessment of Needs
Comprehensive School Improvement Plans
Data Collection and Analysis
Customer Satisfaction Surveys
Group Facilitation
School Improvement Models
Strategic Planning

Partnerships

Community Empowerment Zones

Reports and Communication Between Families and Schools

Crisis Communication
Critical Incident Stress Management
Parent Educator Connection
Publications and Reports
Resolution Facilitators
School-Community Relations

Northwest AEA Programs & Services continued...

Produced by the Northwest AEA Communications Office, 1520 Morningside Ave., Sioux City, Iowa, 51106-1716, 712/222-6000 or 800/352-9040. To arrange a speaker from Northwest AEA or for more information, please contact the Communications Office at 712/222-6003, 800/352-9040 ext. 6003 or visit our website at www.nwaea.k12.ia.us.

Leadership

Providing leadership services that assist with the recruitment, induction, retention, and professional development of educational leaders.

Evaluator Approval Training
Mentoring and Induction Program
Northwest Iowa Leadership Academy
Open Enrollment/Home Schooling Support
Principals' Certification Program
Reading Seminars
School Finance Consulting
Superintendents' Network, Elmore Project
Transportation Route Approval
Walk-Through Training

Professional Development

Assisting districts in implementing the Iowa Professional Development Model, and coordinating workshops, courses, materials, and ongoing consultation for area educators and support staff.

Distance Learning
Paraeducators Certification Program
Professional Learning Communities
Staff Development Courses

School Improvement

Providing support for local district choices for School Improvement processes.

Bullying & Harassment Prevention and Intervention Services
Comprehensive School Improvement Plans
Data Collection and Analysis
Customer Satisfaction Surveys
Facilitation
School Improvement Processes
Schools and Districts in Need of Assistance
Strategic Planning

School Management

Providing support and interim management of school administrative

functions.

AEA Public Relations Cooperative
Bond Issue and PPEL Campaigns
Communication Audits
Computer Services
Cooperative Purchasing
Crisis Communication Planning
Critical Incident Stress Management
Enrollment Reports
Finance and Budget Preparation
Financial Accounting
Grants Consortium
Home School (Competent Private Instruction)
Iowa Educators Consortium
News Media Relations
Northwest Iowa Governing Council
Northwest Iowa Purchasing Coop
On-line Assessment System
Organizational Development
Reorganization Studies
Strategic and School-Community Planning
Substitute Teacher Authorization

Instructional Media

Providing instructional materials to support K-12 classroom instruction and support for school improvement.

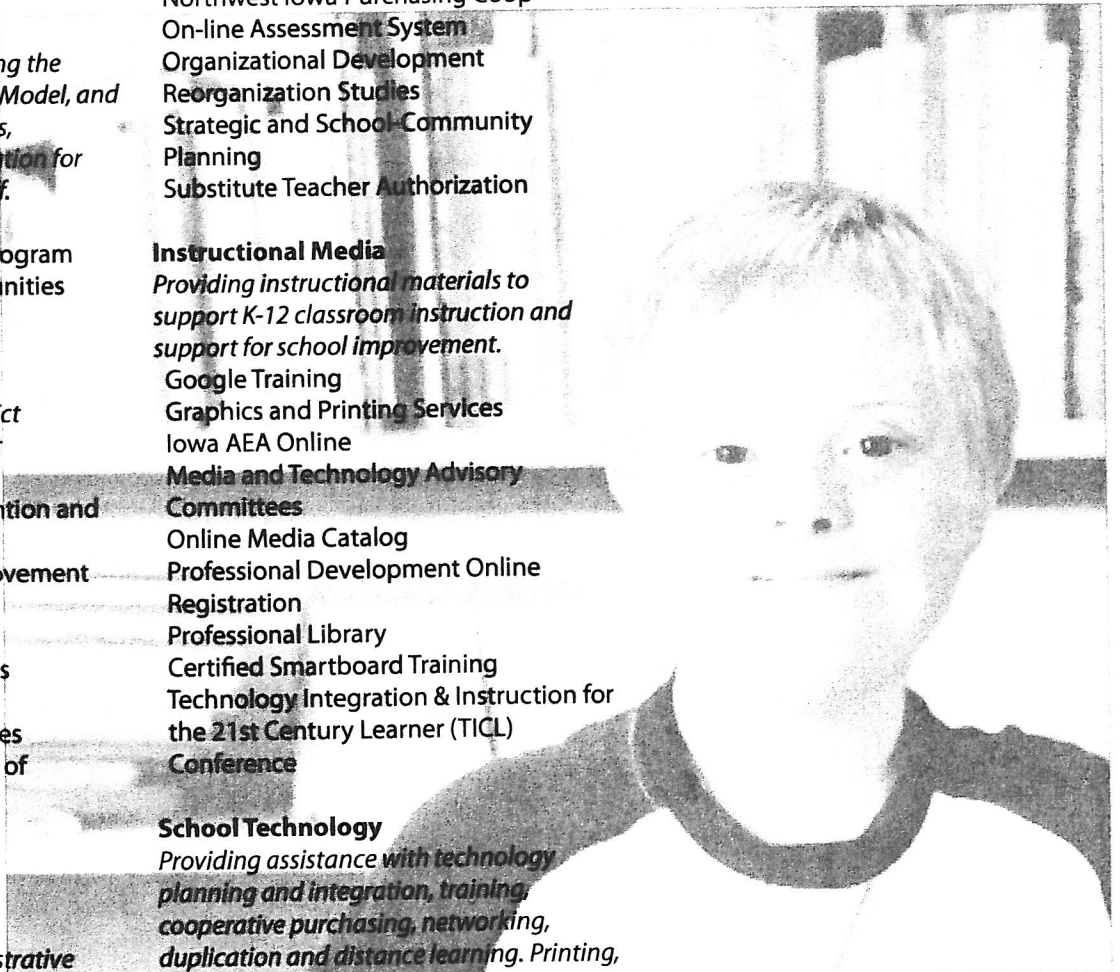
Google Training
Graphics and Printing Services
Iowa AEA Online
Media and Technology Advisory Committees
Online Media Catalog
Professional Development Online
Registration
Professional Library
Certified Smartboard Training
Technology Integration & Instruction for the 21st Century Learner (TICL)
Conference

School Technology

Providing assistance with technology planning and integration, training, cooperative purchasing, networking, duplication and distance learning. Printing,

graphics and Teacher Work Center services.

Assistive Technology
Classroom of the Future
Technology-Curriculum Integration
Technology-Planning
Distance Learning
Duplication Services
Video Production & Support
Software Buys & Volume Purchasing (IEC)
Audio-Visual/Computer Peripherals & Supplies-State Pricing
Technology Audits



Northwest Area Education Agency does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, veteran status or as otherwise prohibited by law in its educational programs, services and employment practices. Questions or grievances related to this policy may be addressed to: Sally Hudek, Equity Coordinator, 1520 Morningside Ave., Sioux City, IA 51106-1716, 712/222-6114. August 2010



2010 Iowa AEA Customer Survey Results

Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements about AEA services.

View	1= Strongly Agree	2= Agree	3= Disagree	4= Strongly Disagree	5= I don't have an opinion	<div> <div>1=Strongly Agree</div> <div>2=Agree</div> <div>3=Disagree</div> <div>4=Strongly Disagree</div> <div>5=I don't have an opinion</div> </div>	Response Total
a. Generally the AEA services that I have received or participated in met my professional needs.	31.1% (3565)	61% (6985)	4% (456)	1.7% (194)	2.2% (255)		11455
	92.1%						
b. The AEA is responsive to my school's student learning needs.	24.4% (2791)	56.4% (6458)	6.4% (728)	2.4% (276)	10.5% (1202)		11455
	80.8%						

c. The AEA provides leadership to meet emerging educational needs.

23.2%
(2663)

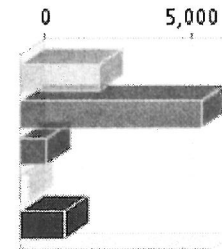
53.8%
(6160)

7.6%
(872)

2.2%
(249)

13.2%
(1511)

77.0%



11455

d. The AEA delivers current and timely services to meet my district or school's needs.

26.6%
(3043)

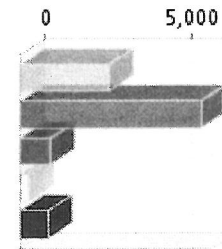
54.1%
(6200)

8.7%
(999)

2.4%
(273)

8.2%
(940)

80.7%



11455

e. The AEA delivers cost-efficient services to meet my district or school's needs.

25.2%
(2885)

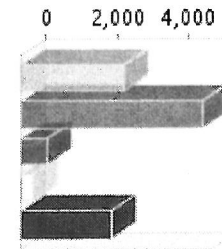
44.3%
(5077)

6%
(689)

2.5%
(286)

22%
(2518)

69.5%



11455

f. The AEA delivers services that assist our district in meeting federal and state mandates (NCLB, IDEA, etc.)

23%
(2636)

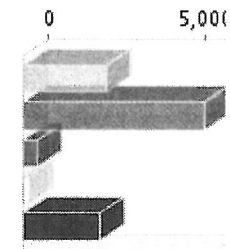
50.7%
(5810)

3.6%
(417)

1.3%
(154)

21.3%
(2438)

73.7%



11455

g. The AEA services that I have received assisted in improving my students' achievement.

23%
(2629)

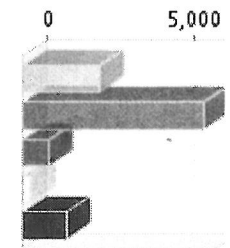
54%
(6191)

7.7%
(884)

2.3%
(258)

13%
(1493)

77.0%



11455

h. The AEA services I have received have assisted in improving my instruction or job-related practices.

26.7%
(3061)

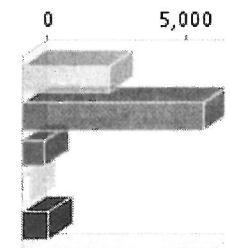
56.7%
(6493)

6.4%
(738)

2%
(229)

8.2%
(934)

83.4%



11455

i. The AEA staff I have contact with have the knowledge and skills needed to have a positive impact on our school(s).

34.3%
(3933)

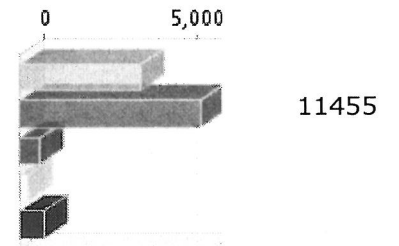
51.6%
(5906)

5.5%
(630)

2%
(230)

6.6%
(756)

85.9%



j. The AEA staff I have contact with create and maintain good working relationships with people in my school and/or district.

36%
(4120)

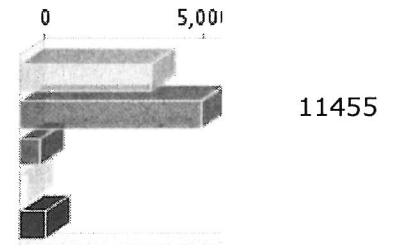
49.6%
(5677)

5.4%
(621)

2%
(229)

7.1%
(808)

85.6%



Total # of respondents **12,310**. Statistics based on **11,455** respondents **0** filtered; **855** skipped.

AEA FUNDING REDUCTIONS

Revised 10/21/2010

Fiscal Year	Funding Reduction	Explanation
2001-02	\$ 10.9 Million	HF 755 Reduced AEA Funding by \$7.5 million and a 4.3% across the board (ATB) Governor's cut reduced \$3.4 million*
2002-03	7.5 Million	Continued \$7.5M cut
2003-04	29.3 Million	Continued \$7.5M cut plus SF 453 Reduced funding by \$10M and scooped \$10 million in balances. Plus a Governor's 2.5% ATB cut reduced another \$1.8M*
2004-05	19.3 Million	Made \$7.5M cut permanent, legislature continued \$10M and \$1.8M reduction.
2005-06	19.3 Million	\$7.5M permanent cut and continued \$11.8M reduction.
2006-07	15.5 Million	\$7.5M permanent cut and reduced \$11.8M cut to \$8M.
2007-08	12.75 Million	\$7.5M permanent cut and reduced \$8M cut to \$5.25M.
2008-09	11.4 Million	\$7.5M permanent cut and reduced \$5.25M cut to \$2.5M plus \$1.4M Governor's ATB cut.*
2009-10	22.7 Million	\$7.5M permanent cut and \$2.5M cut plus legislated \$1.4M reduction and \$11.3 million Governor's ATB cut*
2010-11	10.0 Million	\$7.5M permanent cut and \$2.5M cut.
TOTAL	\$ 158.65 Million	

*AEAs are unable to restore ATB cuts with a levy as they do not have taxing authority. It is then an actual reduction that must be met.

A Quick Reference on How AEAs Are Funded

1 School Foundation Aid Formula *

- Basic operating funds are "controlled" by the state legislature.
- AEAs replaced County Boards of Education in 1975.
- Funding was then transferred from County budgets to local school budgets.

Educational Services	Media Services	Special Education Services
AEAs have three separate controlled funding formulas that must be accounted for separately and funds cannot be combined.		
Formula: Per pupil cost times the number of students enrolled in the public and non-public schools the AEA serves.	Formula: Per pupil cost times the number of students enrolled in the public and non-public schools the AEA serves.	Formula: Per pupil cost times the enrollment number which is public school enrollment plus additional special education weighted values.

Funding is from property taxes.

Funding is 79% state aid and the balance is from property taxes.

Spending Restrictions for Services

- Special Education funding can only be used for expenditures directly related to children identified through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or to support Early ACCESS or Child Find services.
- One third of Media funds is restricted to be used for purchasing resource materials or services in support of local schools or AEA.
- Media and Educational Services funds can only be used for services to the Agency's public and accredited non-public schools.

+

2 Federal Funds *

Federal funds use is restricted based on federal authorization and local grant application.

Federal Grants

- IDEA Part B
- Part C
- Basic 619 appropriations

Small Grants

- ELL
- IDM
- E²T²
- Title I

ARRA

- Part B
- Part C
- Basic 619
- Title I

- * The school foundation aid formula and federal funds make up over 90% of the Agency's budget.
- * Funding generally recurs annually and forms the basis of the operating budget.
- * The amount of money received via these funding streams is prescribed by various formulas and factors.
- * The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) funds are available from 2/17/09 to 9/30/11.
- * AEAs have no taxing authority or ability to individually impact how much money is generated by these formulas.

+

3 State Categorical Funding

State categorical funding is restricted to be used as specified by law.

- Shelter Care
- Phase II
- Teacher Quality
- Early ACCESS
- Iowa Core Curriculum

How Schools & AEAs Differ

AEAs have no bonding or tax levy authority for facility acquisition, operations or upkeep; insurance or early retirement programs; cash flow or additional allowable growth.

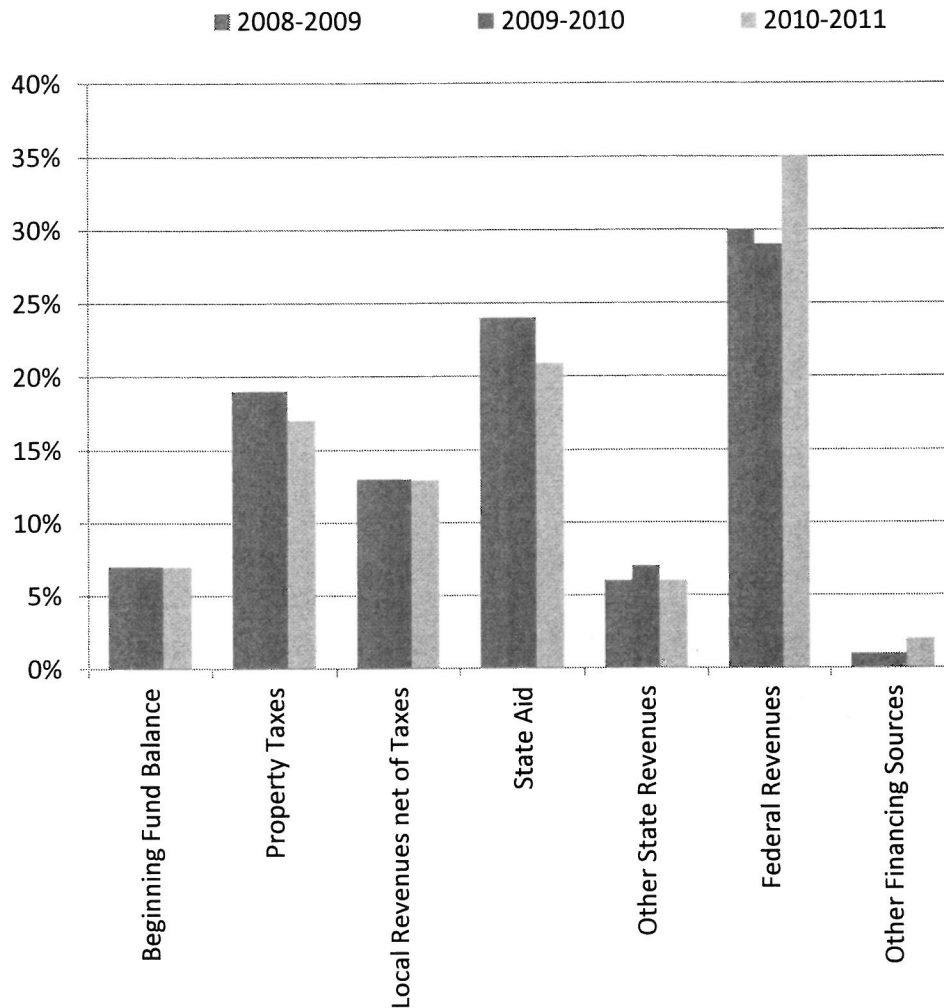


HEARTLAND
AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

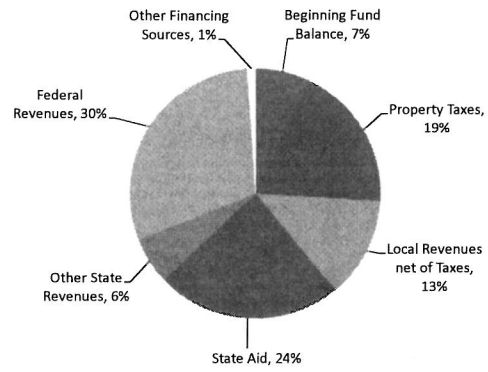
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Prepared by the Heartland AEA Business Department. For questions, contact David King, Director of Finance & Business Services, (515) 270-9030, dking@aea11.k12.ia.us

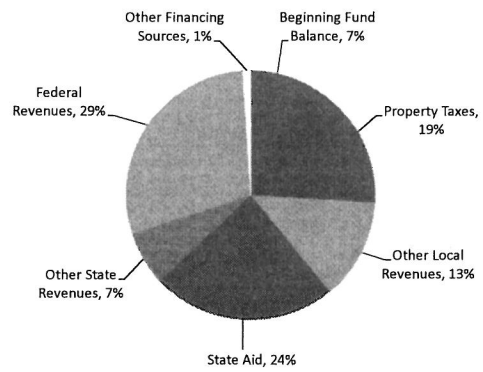
Resources by Major Source 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11



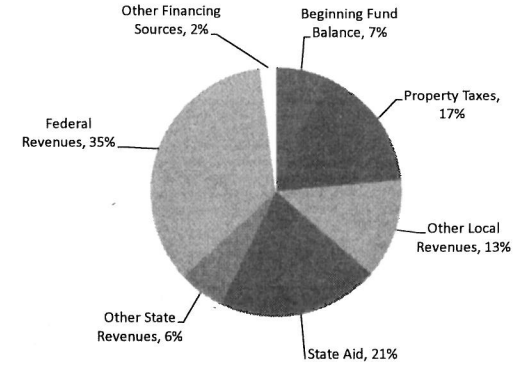
**Resources by Major Source
2008 - 2009**



**Resources by Major Source
2009-2010**



**Resources by Major Source
2010-2011**



**Proposed Resources by Major Source
All Budgeted Funds
Fiscal Year 2009-10**

AEA	A Taxes (Controlled Funding)	B Other Local Revenues	C Intermediate Revenues	D State Aid Controlled Funding	E Other State Revenues	F IDEA Federal Grant	G Other Federal Revenues	H Long Term Debt Proceeds	I Other Financing Sources	J Beginning Fund Balance	K Total
Keystone	6,001,872	1,258,300	2,000	6,465,139	1,618,186	7,883,433	516,156	0	451,951	1,558,635	25,755,672
Prairie Lakes	5,803,698	986,393	0	6,414,994	2,906,834	9,354,858	824,943	0	242,380	3,984,124	30,518,224
267	11,012,100	30,015,085	0	13,648,450	5,805,156	15,400,000	2,310,000	0	474,000	5,009,553	83,674,344
Miss. Bend	8,032,257	2,733,095	375,421	10,183,930	2,344,106	10,999,701	559,950	0	318,340	1,702,562	37,249,362
Grant Wood	11,048,261	5,412,023	0	14,101,979	2,681,698	14,000,000	800,000	0	281,065	3,932,765	52,257,791
Heartland	19,345,979	1,492,516	0	26,075,251	6,109,383	26,774,143	637,646	0	402,857	4,925,353	85,763,128
Northwest	7,031,517	3,678,166	61,000	7,979,478	2,688,466	9,329,820	1,040,634	0	246,628	3,802,049	35,857,758
Loess Hills	4,780,773	5,207,675	0	6,423,321	3,220,880	8,076,500	740,000	0	32,700	1,538,301	30,020,150
Green Valley	1,683,750	415,000	0	2,124,346	450,000	2,804,000	260,000	0	10,000	755,723	8,502,819
Great Prairie	6,053,189	1,715,591	0	7,874,276	2,150,552	9,512,960	56,230	0	407,406	3,662,337	31,432,541
Total	80,793,396	52,913,844	438,421	101,291,164	29,975,261	114,135,415	7,745,559	0	2,867,327	30,871,402	421,031,789

A – Property Tax Funding for Media, Educational Services and Special Education.

B – Interest Income and school funds provided to the AEA for specific purposes, such as the Special Education Pool in AEA 267 or for a sale of service, i.e., professional development or computer services

C – Funding through a University or Community College or County Gaming Grants.

D – Special Education State Funding.*

*This figure is also overstated in that it does not reflect the reductions of this past year: \$7.5 million permanent, \$2.5 million continued, \$11.3 million ATB cut and \$1.4 million underfunding of the formula. **Therefore Section D should be approximately \$79 million. Added to Section E our total state funding is approximately \$109 million**

E – Funding for Teacher salary supplement, professional development, juvenile homes, etc.

F – IDEA Federal Part B funding *

This number reflects a beginning of the year estimation as we were not aware of the final federal/ARRA total at the time.
The more accurate figure was approximately \$125 million. Of that amount \$58 million flowed through to local schools.

G – Other Federal Funding , i.e. Perkins, Title 3/ELL, E2T2, etc.

H – N/A

I – Other financial resources refers to such items as transfer of funds, i.e. general fund to debt service and the disposition of fixed assets.

J – Balances

K - Totals

Potential Staff Reductions/Unfilled Positions

<u>AEA</u>	<u>Reductions/Stimulus*</u>	<u>Reductions/\$10mil</u>	<u>Total</u>
Keystone AEA 1	12-15	10-12	22-27
AEA 267	15-20	15-20	30-40
Prairie Lakes AEA 8	8	16	24
Mississippi Bend AEA 9	25-35	13	38-48
Grant Wood AEA 10	30-40	20	50-60
Heartland AEA 11	16	0	16
Northwest AEA	25-30	12	37-42
Green Hills	17**	14	
Great Prairie AEA	6-8	10-15	16-23

*These are anticipated cuts due to the loss of stimulus funding.

**Green Hills made reductions last year based on the merger of Loess Hills AEA and Green Valley AEA.

Administrator Totals for Iowa Area Education Agency System

There has been speculation about whether or not the mergers that have taken place in the AEA system has resulted in administrator reductions and savings. Mergers that began in 2002 have resulted in the AEA system voluntarily being reduced from 15 agencies down to the current number of 9. These mergers make the AEAs the only governmental entity in the State of Iowa that has voluntarily merged for the purpose of greater efficiency.

Using a definition of administrator as defined by the Iowa Department of Education, the AEAs have reduced the total number of administrators from 179.2 FTEs in 2002 to 125.9 FTEs in 2010. That is a REDUCTION of AEA administrators in the last eight years of 53.3 administrators; a reduction in administrators totaling 29.7%. The savings that have been realized from these reductions have been reinvested into the AEA system and help to maintain, and in some cases, provide additional services to the students of Iowa in these very difficult budgetary times.

ADMINISTRATOR NUMBERS

AEA	2003-04	2010-2011
AEA 1	13	10
AEA 267	26.2	17.9
AEA 8	12	9
AEA 9	24	11
AEA 10	19	18
AEA 11	29	23
Northwest AEA	15	11
Green Hills AEA	22	12
Great Prairie AEA	19	14
Totals	179.2	125.9

A reduction in AEA administrators of 53.3 positions; a decrease of 29.7%.

Setting the AEA Record Straight

Recently there seems to be a sense that AEAs have too much administration and that salaries are too high. In response I would like to provide you with some facts:

- Over the past ten years AEA budgets have been significantly reduced each year from what the School Foundation Formula called for through a combination of legislative mandate, across the board cuts and balance reversion. **Unlike other entities AEAs cannot make up any reductions by levying or tuition increase. It is an actual cut!**

Fiscal Year	Funding Reduction
2001-02	10.9 Million
2002-03	7.5 Million
2003-04	29.3 Million
2004-05	19.3 Million
2005-06	19.3 Million
2006-07	15.5 Million
2007-08	12.75 Million
2008-09	11.4 Million
2009-10	22.7 Million
2010-11	10.0 Million

- The AEAs have done their best to maintain services despite the cuts in several ways: 1. There was an increase of federal special education funds for several years; 2. Stimulus Funding; 3. Accessing balances; and 4. Most importantly by merging AEAs and reducing administrative staff.
- Over the past 8-10 years the AEAs' have reduced from 15 to 9 for the express purpose of freeing up funds for LEA requested services. In addition over this same period AEAs, contrary to what you may have heard, have **reduced management staff by 53.3 positions; a decrease of 29.7%. We would challenge you to identify other educational entities that can make the same claim.**
- During this past interim a legislatively imposed AEA task force met over several months to take a comprehensive look at AEAs. One of the issues they looked at was salaries. The task force concluded that **"Comparisons between AEA chief administrator compensation packages and the top 20 LEA superintendent compensation packages do not reveal salaries and benefits packages that deviate greatly from the average. "**
- The Task Force also concluded that..."LEA boards are required by the Iowa Code to set the salary and compensation for superintendents, as do community college boards for their presidents. To be consistent with Iowa Code, AEA Boards should retain their responsibility to set the salary and compensation for AEA chief administrators.
- Information shared with the Task Force said that the average salary of AEA administrators is slightly less than that of the 20 large LEA superintendents and the Community College Presidents. Considering the reductions in both administrators and management staff we are most likely spending less in these areas than we did years back. **Most importantly, based on the cuts we have made in these areas where is the fairness in singling out just AEAs!**
- The AEAs have done much to avoid reducing instructional staff and services. However we are anticipating major staff reductions this next year due to the loss of stimulus funding. We have made internal cuts in the past to meet the funding reductions above. There are few areas left to be cut that do not involve staff.
- AEAs do not have the ability to levy for a cash reserve, nor do they have a separate fund for buildings, operation and maintenance. To not maintain balances to cover unexpected costs would be irresponsible.

Salary Comparison for AEA Task Force

Community College Presidents 2009/10		LEA Superintendents 2009/10		AEA Chief Administrators 2010/11	
NICC-01	\$150,375	URBANDALE	\$161,251	AEA 1	\$186,389
NIACC-02	\$172,200	BOONE	\$161,469	AEA 267	\$174,500
ILCC-03	\$168,585	BETTENDORF	\$165,000	AEA 9	\$183,088
NCC-04	\$138,074	MUSCATINE	\$165,000	AEA 10	\$178,630
ICCC-05	\$177,200	WAUKEE	\$169,900	AEA 11	\$180,000
IVCCD-06	\$117,500	ANKENY	\$170,544	GPAEA	\$164,566
HCC-07	\$126,691	LINN-MAR	\$170,834	NWAEA	\$169,770
EICCD-09	\$192,554	WEST DES MOINES	\$171,000	GHAEA	\$180,000
KCC-10	\$230,000	INDIANOLA	\$171,077	PLAEA	\$168,500
DMACC-11	\$224,700	AMES	\$171,554	Average	\$176,160
WITCC-12	\$239,301	IOWA CITY	\$174,021		
IWCC-13	\$194,454	JOHNSTON	\$177,556		
SWCC-14	\$155,387	DUBUQUE	\$180,000		
IHCC-15	\$205,000	SOUTHEAST POLK	\$181,203		
SCC-16	\$153,514	SIOUX CITY	\$190,000		
	\$176,369	DAVENPORT	\$192,027		
		WATERLOO	\$196,465		
		CEDAR RAPIDS	\$198,000		
		COUNCIL BLUFFS	\$200,000		
		DES MOINES	\$203,131		
		Average	\$178,502		

Abbreviated Summary of the Iowa Area Education Agency Taskforce Final Report

I. High Priority Recommendations

Six recommendations were considered to be particularly important by the larger taskforce. The following recommendations received a vital rating by five or more taskforce members (for the full recommendation or at least one sub-part of the recommendation):

1. Governance Recommendation Seven: Address issues of parity and statewide collaboration.
2. Structure Recommendation One: Identify core services.
3. Structure Recommendation Two: Redesign, implement, monitor, and evaluate the current system of service delivery in an effort to eliminate achievement gaps.
4. Structure Recommendation Four: Provide specialized support teams.
5. Structure Recommendation Seven: Implement a statewide accountability system and steering committee.
6. Taskforce Recommendation: Change the AEA System to achieve 21st Century learning needs.

II. Moderate Priority Recommendations

Seven recommendations were perceived to be of moderate importance by the larger taskforce. The following recommendations received a vital rating by more than two by fewer than five taskforce members (for the full recommendation or at least one sub-part of the recommendation):

1. Finance Recommendation Two: Enable AEAs to generate additional funds in order to provide new services.
2. Finance Recommendation Five: Create efficiencies in AEAs through collaboration across the system and consolidation of AEA services.
3. Governance Recommendation Four: Maximize AEA/DE collaboration.
4. Governance Recommendation Five: Improve AEA Board member effectiveness.
5. Structure Recommendation Three: Establish a statewide service plan process.
6. Structure Recommendation Five: Create a process to increase statewide collaborative efforts.
7. Structure Recommendation Six: Make changes to Iowa Code Chapter 273 and IAC Chapter 72 for the AEA accreditation process requirements.

III. Remaining Recommendations

The following 12 recommendations, all from either the Finance Workgroup or the Governance Workgroup, were rated as vital by two or fewer taskforce members. Some of these additional recommendations support the previously discussed themes, while others addressed other areas of concern. While these recommendations were not perceived as particularly vital, many were passed unanimously or with little dissent.

1. Finance Recommendation One: Restructure funding for AEA facilities and operations.
2. Finance Recommendation Three: Address the inequity in funding in state-funded special education.
3. Finance Recommendation Four: Fund AEAs through local property taxes.
4. Finance Recommendation Six: Improve flexibility in the use of the AEA media resource dollars.
5. Finance Recommendation Seven: No recommendation regarding uniform reductions in appropriations.
6. Finance Recommendation Eight: Increase transparency about administrative services and salaries.
7. Governance Recommendation One: Retain the current AEA Board member selection process.
8. Governance Recommendation Two: Retain discretionary authority of the AEA Boards.
9. Governance Recommendation Three: Exploit informal and extralegal mechanisms in AEA governance.
10. Governance Recommendation Six: Continue AEA governance and its relationship with the DE but review and revise it as necessary.
11. Governance Recommendation Eight: Review the work of AEA Boards.
12. Governance Recommendation Nine: AEA Boards should review compensation policies and processes.



Statewide Efforts & Services

Program Name	AEA PD Online – http://iowaonlinelearning.wikispaces.com
Description	<p>The AEAs are working systemically to provide professional development online, as one entity. This includes the delivery of all the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online Courses• Online Trainings• Online Communities of Learning• Virtual Meetings and Professional Development• Online PD Resources <p>Working systemically allows us to share online professional development statewide, eliminating inefficiencies, providing equity, and creating more access for all.</p>
Goals (Optional)	<p>Our overall purpose (from our website):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To develop a statewide system for development of content for online professional learning related to statewide efforts and mandates by determining the vision and managing the process• To develop a single, transparent system for delivery of online professional learning content• To serve as an advocate for quality online professional learning by collaborating with other state organizations <p>Our 2010-11 goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Transition to a statewide system with centralized offerings available for all educators2. Gain approval as a license renewal credit provider, setting specific policies and procedures to guide the statewide system.3. Plan for continuous funding and sustainability of online learning program4. Establish quality assurance and evaluation procedures for the statewide system offerings5. Implement an ongoing, comprehensive system of training and support to develop capacity to teach online6. Implement a systemic plan for communication, marketing, and advocacy7. Work with statewide partners to create common vision for online learning in Iowa



Iowa Area
Education Agencies
PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

Statewide Efforts & Services

Target Audience (Optional)	Delivering online professional development for all educators, including teachers, administrators, counselors, coaches, para-educators, and support staff.
Evaluation (Optional)	<p>Evaluation of our statewide system is conducted in many ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professional development needs assessments conducted annually from school districts, each AEA, and the Iowa Department of Education• Instructor evaluations conducted annually• Participant surveys conducted at the conclusion of each course or training• Semi-annual reviews of AEA PD Online goals conducted by AEA Online Council• Annual reviews of support for each local AEA from the statewide system• Annual reviews of partnerships with other partners (including ISEA, SAI, IASB, participating post-secondary and graduate institutions, and the Department of Education)
Other	<p>This agreement is being governed by a 28E agreement for cooperation among the AEAs. The steering committee for this work, the AEA Online Council, is composed of representatives from each AEA in the areas of instructional services, professional development, and media/technology.</p> <p>The council has been in existence for 4 years, the fruit of this cooperation being AEA PD Online.</p>



Statewide Efforts & Services

Program Name	Challenging Behavior Teams
Description	<p>The AEA Challenging Behavior Teams were organized to provide consistent statewide professional development and consultation to support learning for students ages 3 to 21 that are displaying serious behavior concerns. These services promote respect, compassion, and positive behavior supports enabling every learner to perform at his or her highest level within a safe, healthy, and least restrictive environment.</p> <p>Development of the Behavior Team (Technical Assistance Consultants) is a collaborative effort of the Iowa Department of Education, the Center for Disabilities and Development at the University of Iowa Children's Hospital, and Iowa Area Education Agencies.</p>
Goals (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide directed training to LEA and AEA staff i.e., Functional Behavior Assessment, Behavior Management,• Provide on-site consultation to LEA and AEA staff on designing and redesigning programs, strategy development, goal writing, progress monitoring, and manifestation determination, etc for students with challenging behaviors• Provide follow-up to consultation to ensure integrity of implementation• Provide LEA and AEA staff with resources, including print materials, directories of resources, websites, etc
Target Audience (Optional)	
Evaluation (Optional)	
Other	